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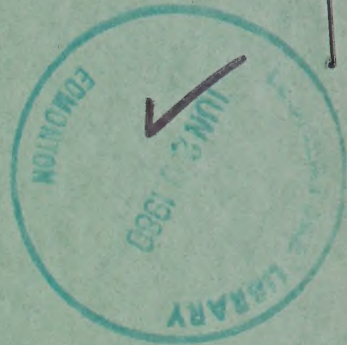
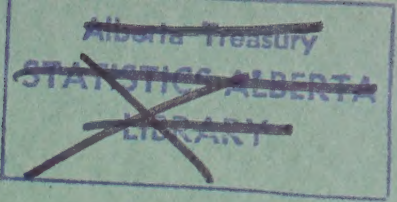
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ANNUAL REPORT

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# CO-OPERATIVE ACTIVITIES AND CREDIT UNION BRANCH

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIES AND LABOUR

## ANNUAL REPORT 1956 - 57

THE FOLLOWING STATISTICAL SUMMARY IS PRESENTED FOR YOUR INFORMATION ON RETURNS OF ALBERTA CO-OPERATIVES FOR THE YEAR 1956 - 57. COMPARATIVE FIGURES FOR THE PREVIOUS FOUR YEARS ARE ALSO LISTED. CONSUMER CO-OPERATIVES CONTINUE THEIR STEADY UPWARD TREND OF APPROXIMATELY ONE MILLION DOLLARS A YEAR, AS THE PRICE SQUEEZE THAT OUR FARMERS ARE FACING BECOMES GREATER, THE TREND IS EVIDENTLY TOWARD FARMER-OWNED BUSINESSES. LIVESTOCK MARKETING HAS GREATLY INCREASED DURING THE PAST YEAR MAINLY DUE TO (A) INCREASE IN LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION, (B) INCREASE IN THE COMMUNITY AND PRIVATE AUCTION MARKETS WHICH DRAW LARGE NUMBERS OF CATTLE THAT FORMERLY WENT TO 48 LIVESTOCK SHIPPING ASSOCIATIONS, (C) INCREASE IN THE NUMBER AND ACTIVITY OF PRIVATE AND PACKER BUYING STATIONS, (D) CONTINUAL AND AGGRESSIVE ADVERTISING BY THE PACKING PLANTS TO MARKET DIRECT, AND THIS IS MADE EASIER, BECAUSE OF BETTER ROADS AND TRUCKS. THE FIGURES BELOW INDICATE THAT OUR LIVESTOCK CO-OPERATIVES HAVE RECEIVED THEIR SHARE OF THIS INCREASED BUSINESS. DAIRY AND POULTRY SHOWS THE NORMAL YEARLY AVERAGE INCREASE OF AROUND TWO MILLION DOLLARS IN TOTAL SALES. EXPANSION OF THE DAIRY POOLS INTO THE CREAMERY BUSINESS, AND INCREASED POULTRY PRODUCTION IN ALBERTA ARE PARTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS. SEED AND GRAIN SHOWS A SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE OVER 1955, DUE TO INCREASED SALES OF WHICH THE CO-OPERATIVES RECEIVED A SHARE, SALES BEING 144,677,000 BUSHELS IN 1955, AND 163,823,000 BUSHELS IN 1956. CREDIT UNIONS - THE NORMAL INCREASE IN BUSINESS DONE EACH YEAR FOR THE PAST FOUR YEARS HAS BEEN FIVE MILLION DOLLARS. HOWEVER 1957 SHOWS AN INCREASE OF SEVEN AND ONE-HALF MILLION DOLLARS. CREDIT UNIONS HAVE MADE THEIR GREATEST GAINS IN ANY YEAR SINCE 1944. WITH 23 INCORPORATIONS DURING THE 12 MONTHS PRECEDING THIS REPORT, THERE HAS BEEN A TREMENDOUS GAIN IN MEMBERSHIP. 9,530 MORE ALBERTANS TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE CO-OP WAY OF DOING BUSINESS. THE AVERAGE GAIN IN ALL DEPARTMENTS HAS BEEN MORE THAN 21% OVER LAST YEAR'S FIGURES.

UNITS REPORTING			BUSINESS DONE		ASSETS		NET WORTH		MEMBERS	
			\$		\$		\$			
96	CONSUMER	24,029,917.47	8,470,127.14	5,878,568.93	69,594					
29	LIVESTOCK	38,991,764.99	747,185.29	684,508.75	15,591					
1	28 LIVESTOCK FEEDERS	4,717,121.42	1,175,473.49	160,495.77	1,673					
9	14 DAIRY AND POULTRY	27,650,722.54	8,185,377.57	5,336,633.71	49,646					
5	23 SEED AND GRAIN	107,996,420.60	62,776,828.20	21,975,656.85	88,781					
6	42 SUNDRY	11,522,143.53	2,702,029.26	1,320,193.98	8,863					
364	ELECTRICAL	1,190,493.29	38,907,573.78	25,229,906.50	34,400					
246	CREDIT UNIONS	42,904,853.00	15,247,327.77	1,015,709.58	54,500					
842		239,003,436.84	138,211,922.50	61,601,674.07	323,048					
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91	CONSUMER	23,269,542.04	9,622,804.70	5,068,486.32	69,382					
36	LIVESTOCK	34,303,119.52	409,764.49	333,923.58	35,451					
1	27 LIVESTOCK FEEDERS	3,452,011.92	851,054.49	127,657.51	1,709					
9	11 DAIRY AND POULTRY	25,886,159.86	7,643,707.15	4,648,333.86	63,882					
5	18 SEED AND GRAIN	93,624,840.41	59,276,621.35	36,568,439.46	88,985					
31	SUNDRY	11,778,933.62	3,581,132.93	1,286,745.80	8,595					
345	ELECTRICAL	3,750,124.15	37,717,080.49	24,966,579.26	29,701					
224	CREDIT UNIONS	35,429,374.00	11,308,674.40	853,567.37	44,970					
783		231,494,065.52	130,410,840.00	73,853,763.16	342,675					
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103	CONSUMER	21,913,393.12	7,363,621.58	5,059,022.29	63,808					
32	LIVESTOCK	39,381,273.75	731,616.06	665,432.70	23,417					
1	27 FEEDERS	1,334,327.58	234,249.17	31,448.98	1,514					
9	16 DAIRY AND POULTRY	24,135,926.47	6,611,282.46	4,405,235.61	58,687					
5	17 SEED AND GRAIN	98,199,176.06	52,024,659.10	12,578,477.46	87,881					
4	39 SUNDRY	9,257,456.02	3,774,556.55	1,349,275.76	7,122					
343	ELECTRICAL	6,598,839.40	33,966,956.34	22,055,648.15	27,807					
213	CREDIT UNIONS	30,481,843.00	9,374,350.12	685,170.56	39,887					
790		231,302,235.40	114,081,291.38	46,829,711.51	310,123					
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106	CONSUMER	21,479,827.02	7,261,722.35	4,902,391.14	66,638					
30	LIVESTOCK	40,133,263.62	398,733.52	364,708.14	24,586					
1	28 FEEDERS	3,081,114.75	323,549.71	105,113.81	1,747					
9	15 DAIRY AND POULTRY	24,701,595.59	6,202,445.09	3,854,565.37	58,519					
5	13 SEED AND GRAIN	126,509,117.44	58,419,443.53	12,791,667.76	85,335					
3	38 SUNDRY	6,178,885.31	2,895,314.28	1,146,505.33	6,664					
331	ELECTRICAL	6,743,545.16	27,368,116.94	18,047,809.95	24,721					
201	CREDIT UNIONS	25,297,876.00	7,800,024.50	533,840.60	34,857					
762		254,125,224.89	111,269,349.92	41,746,602.10	303,067					
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109	CONSUMER	20,831,000.00	6,963,495.95	4,650,934.69	57,603					
38	LIVESTOCK	47,156,704.65	682,508.43	437,502.56	45,817					
1	19 FEEDERS	2,848,599.44	1,109,848.98	111,974.24	870					
9	17 DAIRY AND POULTRY	27,120,384.28	5,664,182.38	3,720,179.10	41,454					
5	11 SEED AND GRAIN	164,228,997.66	45,798,511.84	29,635,583.11	86,794					
2	37 SUNDRY	5,715,889.59	3,240,989.44	1,458,738.14	6,199					
294	ELECTRICAL	9,989,192.70	21,439,491.77	13,615,400.26	31,386					
192	CREDIT UNIONS	20,469,613.00	7,348,584.21	424,165.06	23,240					
717		298,360,581.32	92,247,577.00	54,054,077.16	293,363					

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIES AND LABOUR

EDMONTON, ALBERTA

JUNE 20, 1957.

THE HONOURABLE R. REIERSON,  
MINISTER OF INDUSTRIES AND LABOUR.

SIR -

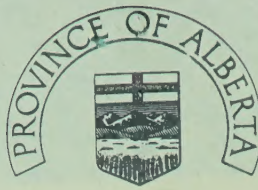
I HAVE THE HONOUR TO SUBMIT HERewith THE ANNUAL REPORT  
ON THE OPERATIONS OF THE CO-OPERATIVE ACTIVITIES SECTION OF YOUR DEPART-  
MENT, COVERING THE YEAR 1956.

AS IN OTHER YEARS, THE STATISTICAL SECTION - WHICH WILL  
BE ATTACHED HERETO, AND FORM A PART OF THIS REPORT - WILL BE SUBMITTED  
IN THE LATE FALL, FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION.

YOURS FAITHFULLY,

*H. W. Webber*  
H. W. WEBBER, SUPERVISOR,  
CO-OPERATIVE ACTIVITIES  
AND CREDIT UNION BRANCH





MEMORANDUM

OUR FILE NO.

YOUR FILE NO.

FROM H.W.Webber, Supervisor,  
Co-operative Activities  
and Credit Union Branch.  
TO

Date November 7th, 1957.

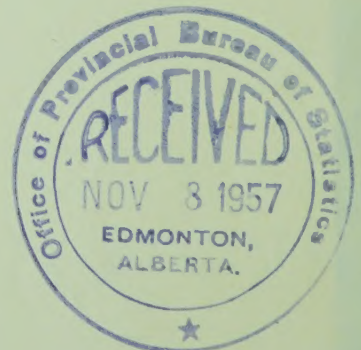
Mr.D.I. Istvanffy,  
Statistician,  
Department of Industries and Labour,  
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.

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We are herewith enclosing a copy of the  
Annual Report of the Co-operative Activities and Credit  
Union Branch for 1956 - 57 and a copy of the Co-op Annual  
Report 1956.

H.W.Webber, Supervisor,  
Co-operative Activities  
and Credit Union, Branch.

/er  
encl.



# DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIES AND LABOUR

THE HONOURABLE RAYMOND REIERSON,  
MINISTER.

J. E. OBERHOLTZER,  
DEPUTY MINISTER.

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## ANNUAL REPORT

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## CO-OPERATION

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H. W. WEBBER, SUPERVISOR

H. E. HEATH, DEPUTY SUPERVISOR

T. WM. NORDON, CO-OPERATIVE ASSISTANT

G. H. HEATH, CO-OPERATIVE ASSISTANT

J. E. LAMBERT, CO-OPERATIVE EXAMINER

L. E. OLIVIER, CHIEF CLERK

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# REPORT ON RURAL ELECTRIFICATION DEVELOPMENT 1956



I HAVE THE HONOUR TO REPORT ON PROGRESS IN THE TENTH YEAR OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF RURAL ELECTRIFICATION IN ALBERTA.

DURING 1956, THE NUMBER OF NEW FARMS CONNECTED WAS LESS THAN HALF THAT OF THE PEAK YEAR OF 1954, WHEN 6,323 FARMS WERE HOOKED UP, WHEREAS BUT 2,890 FARMS WERE GIVEN SERVICE IN 1956. PART OF THIS DECREASE CAN BE ATTRIBUTED TO THE HEAVY SNOW CONDITIONS OF THE WINTER OF 1955 - 56, WITH THE RESULTANT ROAD BANS IN THE SPRING OF 1956. TO ILLUSTRATE THIS, ONLY 773 FARM HOOKUPS WERE COMPLETED IN THE SIX MONTHS ENDING JUNE 30, 1956. THE GRAND TOTAL OF ELECTRIFIED FARMS IN ALBERTA WAS 37,658 AT THE END OF THE YEAR.

SINCE THE 1956 CENSUS FIGURES SHOW 79,424 FARMS IN ALBERTA, AND IF WE CONSIDER 80% AS THE TOTAL POSSIBLE FOR RURAL ELECTRIFICATION, WHICH WOULD BE APPROXIMATELY 63,500 FARMS, THEN IT WOULD APPEAR THAT WE ARE WELL PAST THE HALFWAY POINT IN OUR PROGRAMME.

## FINANCING

DURING 1956, FINANCING UNDER TERMS OF THE RURAL ELECTRIFICATION REVOLVING FUND ACT ALLOWED 2,137 MEMBERS OF 360 RURAL ELECTRIFICATION ASSOCIATIONS TO INSTALL POWER ON THEIR FARMS. TOTAL COST OF THESE PROJECTS WAS ESTIMATED TO BE \$2,323,268.18. OF THIS AMOUNT, \$1,839,082.93 WAS BORROWED UNDER THE TERMS OF THE ABOVE ACT. TOTAL FARMS SERVED, USING THIS MEANS OF FINANCING, WAS 16,234. BALANCE OUTSTANDING AS AT DECEMBER 31 WAS \$10,575,701.80 ON REVOLVING FUND ACCOUNT.

ON JUNE 1, 1956, THE FIRST LOANS UNDER PROVISIONS OF THE RURAL ELECTRIFICATION LONG TERM FINANCING ACT WERE MADE. THIS ACT, WHICH PROVIDES FOR LOANS FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION, AND FOR LOANS USED TO REFINANCE EXISTING LOANS UNDER THE REVOLVING FUND ACT, OR UNDER THE CO-OPERATIVE MARKETING ASSOCIATIONS GUARANTEE ACT, HAS ALLOWED A NEW LOOK TO BE TAKEN AT THE WHOLE PICTURE OF RURAL ELECTRIFICATION FINANCING.

I HAVE THE HONOUR TO REPORT ON PROGRESS IN THE TENTH YEAR

OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF RURAL ELECTRIFICATION IN ALBERTA

DURING 1931, THE NUMBER OF NEW FARMS CONNECTED WAS LESS THAN

HALF THAT OF THE YEAR OF 1930, WHEN 2,323 FARMS WERE HOOKED

UP, WHEREAS BUT 1,286 FARMS WERE GIVEN SERVICE IN 1931. PART OF

THIS DECREASE CAN BE ATTRIBUTED TO THE HEAVY SNOW CONDITIONS

OF THE WINTER OF 1930-31, WITH THE RESULTANT ROAD BANKS IN THE

SPRING OF 1931. TO ILLUSTRATE THIS ONLY 175 FARM HOUSES WERE

COMPLETED IN THE SIX MONTHS ENDING JUNE 30, 1931. THE SHARE

TOTAL OF ELECTRIFIED FARMS IN ALBERTA WAS 17,219 AT THE END

OF THE YEAR.

SINCE THE PREVIOUS FIGURES SHOW 17,219 FARMS IN ALBERTA, AND IF WE CONSIDER THE

AS THE TOTAL POSSIBLE FOR RURAL ELECTRIFICATION, WHICH WOULD BE APPROXIMATELY

43,000 FARMS, THEN IT WOULD APPEAR THAT THE PROGRESS HAS BEEN HALFWAY POINT IN

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#### FINANCING

DURING 1931, FINANCING UNDER TERMS OF THE RURAL ELECTRIFICATION REVOLVING FUND

ACT ALLOWED 1,127 MEMBERS OF 360 RURAL ELECTRIFICATION ASSOCIATIONS TO INSTALL

POWER ON THEIR FARMS. TOTAL COST OF THESE PROJECTS WAS ESTIMATED TO BE

\$1,412,125. OF THIS AMOUNT, \$1,100,000 WAS BORROWED UNDER THE TERMS OF THE

ABOVE ACT. TOTAL FARMS SERVED, USING THIS MEANS OF FINANCING, WAS 16,324.

BALANCE OUTSTANDING AS AT DECEMBER 31 WAS \$1,312,100 ON REVOLVING FUND ACCOUNT.

ON JUNE 1, 1931 THE FIRST LOANS UNDER PROVISIONS OF THE RURAL ELECTRIFICATION

LONG TERM FINANCING ACT WERE MADE. THIS ACT, WHICH PROVIDES FOR LOANS FOR NEW

CONSTRUCTION, AND FOR LOANS USED TO REPAY EXISTING LOANS UNDER THE REVOLVING

FUND ACT, OR UNDER THE CO-OPERATIVE MARKETING ASSOCIATION GUARANTEE ACT, HAS

ALLOWED A NEW LOOK TO BE TAKEN AT THE WHOLE PICTURE OF RURAL ELECTRIFICATION.



THE LONGER TERM ALLOWED DID NOT MEET WITH TOO MUCH FAVOUR IN MANY AREAS AS FARMERS STILL SEEM TO FEEL THAT THEIR INCOME IS NOT GEARED TO A MONTHLY PAYMENT. HOWEVER 250 NEW MEMBERS, AND 188 REFINANCED CONTRACTS RESULTED IN \$382,721.49 BEING AUTHORIZED FOR BORROWING FROM THE FUND UNDER PROVISIONS OF THE LONG TERM ACT. PROVISION FOR QUARTERLY PAYMENTS IN ADVANCE TO COINCIDE WITH NORMAL QUARTERLY BILLINGS INCREASED THE POPULARITY OF THIS PLAN, AND THE NUMBER BORROWING UNDER IT WAS INCREASING RAPIDLY DURING THE LAST PART OF THE YEAR. \$257,199.83 WAS ACTUALLY BORROWED UNDER THIS ACT IN 1956.

THE ESTIMATED COST OF NEW CONSTRUCTION FOR PROJECTS FINANCED UNDER LONG TERM IN 1956 WAS \$186,970.00 - THE AMOUNT BORROWED FOR THESE MEMBERS WAS \$125,000.20.

TOTAL AMOUNT BORROWED FROM THE FUND UNDER BOTH ACTS AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1956, WAS \$14,165,220.48.

#### REPAYMENTS

DURING THE YEAR UNDER REVIEW THE SUM OF \$1,798,938.63 WAS RECEIVED IN REPAYMENT, PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST, ON REVOLVING FUND, AND LONG TERM LOANS. OF THIS SUM, \$1,495,670.19 WAS RECEIVED AS REPAYMENTS ON PRINCIPAL FOR RETURN TO THE REVOLVING FUND. \$303,268.44 WAS RECEIVED AS INTEREST, WHICH WENT TO THE GENERAL REVENUE OF THE PROVINCE.

#### CERTIFICATES OF APPROVAL

AT YEAR'S END, A TOTAL OF 954 CERTIFICATES OF APPROVAL HAD BEEN ISSUED BY THE ALBERTA POWER COMMISSION. 292 OF THESE WERE GRANTED IN 1956. IN ADDITION, A TOTAL OF 57 CERTIFICATES OF APPROVAL UNDER PART 11 OF THE REVOLVING FUND ACT HAD BEEN GRANTED, 50 OF THESE IN 1956.

#### PART 11

UNDER PART 11 OF THE REVOLVING FUND ACT, PROJECTS ESTIMATED TO COST \$1,258,296.20, TO SERVE 863 MEMBERS, WERE AUTHORIZED. THE AMOUNT OF MONEY AUTHORIZED UNDER PART 11 DURING THE YEAR AMOUNTED TO \$462,572.00 - OF THIS TOTAL, \$296,702.00 WAS ACTUALLY BORROWED DURING THE YEAR. \$800.00 WAS RETURNED TO THE FUND, AS THE FIRST REPAYMENT, DURING THE YEAR.

#### DOWN PAYMENT

DURING 1956, THE DOWN PAYMENT ON RURAL ELECTRIFICATION CONTRACTS WAS REDUCED TO A MINIMUM OF \$100.00. THIS, COUPLED WITH LONG TERM FINANCING, AND SMALL REGULAR PAYMENTS





COLLECTED BY THE POWER COMPANIES HAS MADE IT EASIER FOR THE MARGINAL FARMER TO RECEIVE THE BENEFITS OF POWER ON THE FARM. THE FULL IMPACT OF THIS WAS NOT SEEN IN 1956 DUE TO THE LATE START IN THE SPRING, AND THE ORIGINAL HESITATION OF SOME FARMERS WHEN IT CAME TO SIGNING CONTRACTS AND LIEN NOTES CALLING FOR MONTHLY PAYMENTS.

#### CO-OPERATIVE MARKETING ASSOCIATIONS GUARANTEE ACT

ACTIVITY UNDER THE GUARANTEE ACT CONTINUES AT A VERY LOW EBB. DURING THE YEAR, GUARANTEES WERE GRANTED FOR THE SMALL SUM OF \$14,369.27, TO ASSIST 25 FARMERS. TOTAL COST OF PROJECTS AMOUNTED TO \$15,718,424.00, TO SERVE 16,119 FARMS.

THE CUMULATIVE TOTAL OF BORROWINGS AUTHORIZED UNDER GUARANTEE FOR RURAL ELECTRIFICATION ASSOCIATIONS AMOUNTS TO \$6,751,336.51. OF THIS AMOUNT, \$1,968,236.55 (A NET REDUCTION OF \$218,262.64 DURING 1956) WAS OUTSTANDING AT DECEMBER 31. TOTALS TO THE END OF 1956 WERE \$14,461,922.48, ADVANCED FROM THE REVOLVING FUND UNDER THE REVOLVING FUND ACT (PART I AND PART II) AND LONG TERM FINANCING ACT, WITH \$6,751,336.51 BORROWED UNDER GUARANTEE, FOR A GRAND TOTAL OF \$21,213,258.99.

32,603 FARMS HAVE BEEN ELECTRIFIED USING THE FINANCIAL AID AUTHORIZED BY THE ACTS UNDER REVIEW. AT YEAR END, THE TOTAL ESTIMATED COSTS OF THESE LINES IS CALCULATED TO BE \$34,846,047.98. AT DECEMBER 31, 1956, THE NET AMOUNT OUTSTANDING, OWED BY THE R.E. A. MEMBERS, WAS \$12,839,840.35. (NOTE GUARANTEE FIGURES FOR ESTIMATED COST AND MEMBERSHIP HAVE BEEN CORRECTED.)

#### R.E.A. INCORPORATIONS

DURING 1956, FIFTEEN ELECTRICAL CO-OPERATIVES WERE CHARTERED, AN INCREASE OF FIVE OVER 1955. THIS BROUGHT THE ACTIVE TOTAL TO 362. THIS IS A GREAT DECREASE FROM THE DAYS OF ACTIVE EXPANSION IN THE NUMBER OF ASSOCIATIONS, AND SHOWS CLEARLY THAT THE BASIC COVERAGE IS VIRTUALLY COMPLETE. THERE WILL STILL BE A FEW INCORPORATIONS, BUT MOST OF THE DEVELOPMENT IN THE FUTURE WILL BE THE FILLING IN OF EXISTING AREAS.

WE WORK VERY CLOSELY WITH THE ALBERTA POWER COMMISSION TO DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT THERE IS A NEED FOR ADDITIONAL INCORPORATION, OR WHETHER A REQUEST MAY BE FROM A SPLINTER GROUP THAT COULD BE ADEQUATELY SERVED BY BECOMING PART OF A LARGER R. E. A.





## COMPARISONS 1955 AND 1956

### RURAL ELECTRIFICATION

	1955	1956
TOTAL FARMS HOOKED UP	34,500	36,750
R.E.A. MEMBERS HOOKED UP	29,406	31,576
INCREASE IN R.E.A. MEMBERSHIP IN 1956		2,271
TOTAL ASSOCIATIONS IN ALBERTA	859	893
TOTAL CREDIT UNIONS	221	231
TOTAL CO-OPS OF ALL KINDS	638	662

### CONSUMER CO-OPERATION

THE TREND CONTINUES WHEREBY THE COMPETITION FOR THE CONSUMER'S PURCHASING DOLLAR APPEARS TO BE GROWING EVER KEENER. THE SMALLER STORES, PARTICULARLY THOSE ON GOOD ROADS AND CLOSER TO LARGER CENTRES, ARE FINDING THAT IT IS INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT TO COVER COSTS AND SHOW A SURPLUS. THE GENERAL OBSERVATION THAT COULD BE MADE FOR 1956 WAS THAT THE GOOD STORES DID BETTER THAN IN 1955, WHILE THE SMALLER POORER STORES HAD A WORSE YEAR THAN IN 1955.

DURING 1956, THE HILLIARD CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION CLOSED ITS DOORS AND WILL BE LIQUIDATED. THE STORES OWNED BY THE RETAIL STORES DIVISION OF THE A. C. W. A., AT CAMROSE AND BROWNVALE WERE ALSO CLOSED DURING THE YEAR. IN EACH CASE, LOCAL SUPPORT WAS NOT SUFFICIENT TO ALLOW THE STORE CONCERNED TO PAY ITS WAY, AND IT WAS CONSIDERED WISEST TO CLOSE IT OUT. CAMROSE HAD UNSUITABLE PREMISES, AND BROWNVALE TRADE IS BEING DIVERTED TO THE LARGER CENTRES OF GRIMSHAW AND FAIRVIEW.

ON THE BRIGHTER SIDE, TWO OF THE FORMER A. C. W. A. STORES BECAME AUTONOMOUS CO-OPS DURING 1956. CALGARY AND MEDICINE HAT STORES WERE CONVERTED TO LOCALLY OWNED CO-OPS DURING THE YEAR.

CONSUMER INCORPORATIONS DURING THE YEAR WERE MEDICINE HAT AND RED DEER CONSUMER ASSOCIATIONS, AND THE PONOKA CO-OPERATIVE OILS, SPONSORED BY U. F. A. CO-OPERATIVE LTD.

### A. C. W. A.

THE LONG RANGE POLICY OF SELLING THE RETAIL STORES OWNED BY THE RETAIL STORES DIVISION TO LOCAL CO-OPS IN THE VARIOUS TRADING AREAS, BORE FRUIT IN 1956, WITH THE TURNING OVER OF THE CALGARY AND MEDICINE HAT STORES.





THE A. C. W. A. HOPES TO SELL ALL OF ITS RETAIL STORES WITHIN THE NEXT FEW YEARS AND THE REASONING BEHIND THIS MOVE APPEARS SOUND, AS THE PRESENT WHOLLY OWNED STORES ARE CONSIDERED JUST ANOTHER STORE, WHEN THERE IS NO LOCAL CAPITALIZATION, AND THUS NO MEMBER INTEREST. IN EACH CASE THE A. C. W. A. IS WILLING TO SELL TO A NEW CO-OP ON THE BASIS OF DEPRECIATED VALUE OF FIXTURES, AND ON INVOICE PRICE FOR STOCK. NOTHING IS CHARGED FOR GOOD WILL.

#### FUEL AND OIL PROGRAM

THE A. C. W. A. FUEL AND OIL EXPANSION, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE U. F. A., IS GROWING. THREE BULK STATIONS, AT PLAMONDON, THORHILD, AND GIROUXVILLE, WERE OPENED IN 1956. IT IS HOPED THAT EVENTUALLY A CO-OPERATIVE REFINERY MAY BE BUILT IN ALBERTA.

#### MANAGEMENT SERVICE

THIS CENTRALIZED ACCOUNTING AND MANAGEMENT SERVICE, PROVIDED BY THE A. C. W. A., IS IN ITS NINTH YEAR. THE A. C. W. A. CONSIDERS THAT UNDER ITS CONTRACT, IT IS HIRED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF AN AUTONOMOUS CO-OP TO MANAGE THE STORE. THE LOCAL BOARD IS STILL EXPECTED TO FUNCTION AS A BOARD IN THE SAME MANNER AS THOUGH THEY HIRED AN INDIVIDUAL AS MANAGER.

UNFORTUNATELY, WHEN A STORE HAS HIRED A. C. W. A. TO MANAGE ITS AFFAIRS, THE LOCAL BOARD OFTEN FEEL THAT THEY HAVE PASSED THEIR RESPONSIBILITY ON TO THE A. C. W. A., AND CEASE TO SHOW ANY REAL INTEREST IN THEIR STORE. THUS MANAGEMENT SERVICE AND ITS IMPLICATIONS HAVE BEEN RECEIVING A GREAT DEAL OF THOUGHT, AND IT IS FELT THAT CHANGES WILL BE MADE TO BRING THE SERVICE MORE INTO LINE WITH THAT DESIRED BY THE LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS.

WHOLESALE OPERATIONS IN 1956 SHOWED SALES OF \$4,078,229.00, AN INCREASE OF \$908,051 OVER 1955. NET SAVINGS WERE \$44,512.00. RETAIL SALES WERE \$3,687,752.00 - \$408.00 OVER 1955. SAVINGS HOWEVER WERE IMPROVED WITH A NET OF \$11,080.00, AN INCREASE OF \$8,980.00 OVER 1955.

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A. C. W. A. HISTORY, FERTILIZER SOLD UNDER THE CO-OP LABEL WAS AVAILABLE IN 1956. SALES AMOUNTED TO \$360,000.00. AT THE WHOLESALE LEVEL, GROCERIES WERE UP \$213,500.00. HARDWARE WAS UP \$259,500.00.

IN 1956, THE ACCUMULATED DEFICIT OF A. C. W. A. WAS CHARGED BACK AGAINST MEMBERS'





EQUITIES, AND THE BALANCE SHEET NOW SHOWED A MUCH BETTER RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN EQUITY AND LIABILITIES. BECAUSE OF THE ELIMINATION OF THIS OUTSTANDING DEFICIT, IT WAS POSSIBLE TO ALLOCATE A PATRONAGE DIVIDEND OF ONE AND THREE QUARTER PER CENT ON 1956 PATRONAGE. LUMBER

WETASKIWIN, SPIRIT RIVER, OYEN, AND LINDEN ADDED LUMBER YARDS TO THEIR OPERATIONS. THIS EXPANSION WHILE SMALL, IS A START, IN SHOWING OTHER CENTRES WHAT CAN BE DONE IN ADDING THIS HIGH MARGIN COMMODITY TO THEIR BUSINESS.

## LIVESTOCK MARKETING

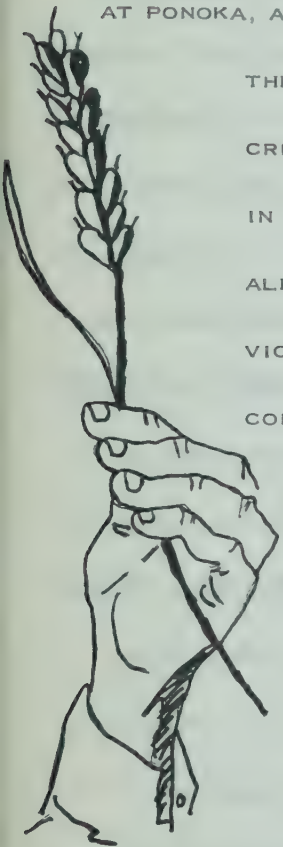
TWO NEW LIVESTOCK MARKETING ASSOCIATIONS WERE INCORPORATED IN 1956, THESE CO-OPS, AT PONOKA, AND AT CORONATION, WERE ORGANIZED FOR THE PURPOSE OF SELLING LIVESTOCK THROUGH AN AUCTION RING. THIS METHOD OF SELLING IS PROVING ITS WORTH IN INCREASING RETURNS TO THE PRODUCER. SMALL LIVESTOCK ASSOCIATIONS CONTINUE IN THE DOLDRUMS, AS TRUCK HAULS INCREASE IN LENGTH. A. L. C. AND SOUTHERN ALBERTA CO-OP, OPERATING IN THE LARGER CENTRES, ARE PROVIDING A USEFUL SERVICE IN THE MARKETING OF LIVESTOCK, AS THEY PROVIDE COMPETITION FOR PRIVATE COMMISSION FIRMS AND HELP BRING HIGHER PRICES TO THE PRODUCER.

## FEEDER ASSOCIATIONS

TWO FEEDER ASSOCIATIONS WERE INCORPORATED DURING THE YEAR, AT STRATHMORE AND AT HIGH RIVER. SINCE THE LIVESTOCK BRANCH OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE PROVIDES DIRECT SUPERVISION OF FEEDER ASSOCIATIONS, WE HAVE LITTLE DIRECT CONTACT WITH THEM.

## SEED AND GRAIN

THE ALBERTA WHEAT POOL AND UNITED GRAIN GROWERS BOTH ENJOYED SUCCESSFUL YEARS, AND CONTINUED TO EXPAND THEIR SERVICES TO THEIR FARMER MEMBERS. DURING 1956 THE PRELIMINARY STEPS WERE TAKEN WHEREBY THE PHYSICAL ASSETS OF THE ALBERTA SEED GROWERS CO-OP WILL BE BOUGHT BY THE ALBERTA WHEAT POOL. ALBERTA SEED GROWERS WILL CONTINUE TO BE OPERATED AS A SEPARATE DIVISION, WITH THE MEMBERS' EQUITY BEING KEPT SEPARATE FROM THAT OF WHEAT POOL MEMBERS. THIS AMALGAMATION SHOULD HELP TO ROUND OUT THE SERVICE PROVIDED BY THE WHEAT POOL, AND THE ADDITIONAL CAPITAL WHICH WILL BE PROVIDED WILL PLACE THE ALBERTA





SEED GROWERS DIVISION IN A VERY SOUND FINANCIAL POSITION.

#### SEED CLEANING PLANTS

DURING THE YEAR, SEED CLEANING PLANTS WERE INCORPORATED AT ACME, STRATHMORE, BERWYN, AND GOODRIDGE. THE GOODRIDGE PLANT IS BEING BUILT WITHOUT OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE AND WILL BE MUCH SMALLER THAN THE PLANTS BUILT WITH MUNICIPAL AND DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE ASSISTANCE. THE INCORPORATION AT BERWYN MARKS THE FIRST PLANT TO BE INCORPORATED NORTH OF THE PEACE RIVER. DURING THE YEAR, THE PLANT AT BALZAC BECAME THE 18TH OPERATING SEED CLEANING PLANT. CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IS BEING SHOWN AT OTHER POINTS, AND NEW INCORPORATIONS WILL BE COMPLETED IN 1957.

IN JANUARY 1956, THE PROVINCIAL SEED CLEANING CO-OPERATIVES ASSOCIATION WAS INCORPORATED. THIS IS A CO-OP COMPOSED OF SEED CLEANING PLANT ASSOCIATIONS, AND WAS FORMED TO PROVIDE A CENTRAL BODY THROUGH WHICH MATTERS PERTAINING TO ALL SEED PLANTS COULD BE CHANNELLED. TANGIBLE RESULTS TO DATE HAVE BEEN THE LOWERING OF INSURANCE RATES TO SEED PLANTS, THE REDUCTION IN THE COST OF SEED DRESSINGS, AND OTHER SUPPLIES, AND SOME PRELIMINARY WORK ON A PENSION PLAN FOR EMPLOYEES.

#### FROZEN FOOD LOCKERS

NO NEW INCORPORATIONS WERE COMPLETED IN 1956. THE STONY PLAIN PLANT REVERTED FROM A RENTAL OPERATION BY A PRIVATE OPERATOR, BACK TO CO-OPERATIVE MANAGEMENT.

#### DAIRY AND POULTRY

THERE WERE NO NEW INCORPORATIONS IN 1956. CENTRAL ALBERTA DAIRY POOL HAS COMPLETED AN EXTENSIVE MODERNIZATION PROGRAM, AND IS THUS IN A BETTER POSITION TO PAY FINAL PAYMENTS TO ITS MEMBERS. THE EGG AND POULTRY DIVISION OF THE CENTRAL POOL SHOWED AN OPERATING LOSS OF OVER \$27,000- AND THE CONDENSERY, A LOSS OF OVER \$13,000.00 FOR THE YEAR. A LOSS OF \$4,400.00 WAS SUSTAINED IN CALGARY IN THE FLUID MILK OPERATION, HOWEVER THE OVERALL PICTURE WAS ENCOURAGING AS CURRENT LIABILITIES HAVE BEEN REDUCED, AND RESERVES AND MEMBERS' EQUITY HAVE BEEN INCREASED BY A TOTAL OF \$293,989.00.

NORTHERN ALBERTA DAIRY POOL SALES WERE 12.4 MILLION DOLLARS IN 1956. \$1,003,966.00 WAS PAID OUT IN FINAL PAYMENTS IN 1956. FINAL PAYMENTS WERE AS FOLLOWS, 6 AND 3)4 CENTS PER LB. B.F., 4 AND 3)4 CENTS IN CASH, AND 2 CENTS IN RESERVES. 55 CENTS CWT. FLUID MILK, 10 CENTS PER CWT. FOR CHEESE MILK, AND 10 CENTS PER GALLON OF INSPECTED CREAM.





THE NORTHERN POOL SHOWS THE VALUE OF CONCENTRATING PRODUCTION IN LARGER PLANTS. THIS POLICY IS NOT ALWAYS FAVORABLY RECEIVED BY TOWNSPEOPLE WHEN THERE IS TALK OF CLOSING OUT A LOCAL INDUSTRY, BUT IT HAS BEEN DEFINITELY PROVEN, THAT THE RETURN TO THE PRODUCER IS GREATER WHEN PRODUCTION IS CONCENTRATED IN LARGER PLANTS WHICH OPERATE MORE EFFICIENTLY. TO ILLUSTRATE THIS POINT, THE DELBURNE CREAMERY WAS DESTROYED BY FIRE IN MAY 1956. C. A. D. P. BUILT A REFRIGERATED RECEIVING STATION AND TRUCKED CREAM TO ALIX AS THE CREAM VOLUME IN THE DELBURNE DISTRICT DID NOT WARRANT REBUILDING. THE LOCAL RESIDENTS OF THE TOWN HAVE THE NEIGHBORING FARMERS CONVINCED THAT THEY WILL DO BETTER TO SET UP THEIR OWN LOCAL CO-OP CREAMERY, AND STEPS ARE BEING TAKEN, FURTHER TO THIS END. INFORMATION WHICH WE HAVE RECEIVED FROM THE DAIRY BRANCH INDICATES THAT THIS ATTITUDE IS NOT JUSTIFIED BY FACT, BUT IT APPEARS THAT AN ATTEMPT WILL BE MADE TO BUILD A CREAMERY IN DELBURNE.

#### GENERAL DAIRYING STATISTICS

BUTTER PRODUCTION DROPPED BY 1,115,229 LBS. IN 1956. CHEESE PRODUCTION DROPPED 218,165 LBS. IN 1956. ON A PERCENTAGE BASIS, CO-OPERATIVE CREAMERIES INCREASED THEIR PRODUCTION WHEN COMPARED TO OTHER CREAMERIES, WITH THE 1955 PERCENTAGE BEING 66.5, AND THE 1956 PERCENTAGE BEING 67.8 OF THE TOTAL. CO-OPERATIVE PRODUCTION OF CHEESE WAS VIRTUALLY UNCHANGED, FROM 84.5% IN 1955, TO 84.4% IN 1956.

#### BUTTER PRODUCTION 1956

	L B S .	1956	1955
43 PRIVATELY OWNED PLANTS PRODUCED	9,723,439	32.2%	33.5%
46 CO-OPERATIVE PLANTS PRODUCED	20,496,133	67.8%	66.5%

#### CHEESE PRODUCTION 1956

2 PRIVATELY OWNED PLANTS PRODUCED	301,772	15.6%	15.5%
8 CO-OPERATIVE PLANTS PRODUCED	1,630,645	84.4%	84.5%
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#### POULTRY

CO-OPERATIVE HANDLINGS OF POULTRY ARE CHANNELLED PRIMARILY THROUGH THE ALBERTA POULTRY PRODUCERS LIMITED. SOME OVERLAPPING OF SERVICES EXISTS BETWEEN THE C. A. D. P. AND A. P. P., BUT IN THE MAIN, THE TWO CO-OPS ATTEMPT TO LIMIT THIS WHEREVER POSSIBLE. IN 1956, ALBERTA POULTRY PRODUCERS INSTITUTED THEIR BROILER EXPANSION PROGRAM.





THIS PROJECT, DESIGNED TO SUPPLY A CONTINUOUS FLOW OF BROILERS FOR THE EVISCERATING PLANT, ALSO NECESSITATED THE MODERNIZATION OF THE MILLING AND EVISCERATING OPERATION. THE RESULT IS THAT POULTRY SALES IN EDMONTON HAVE INCREASED GREATLY. EGG SALES HAVE INCREASED TO 7,102,426 DOZEN - UP 675,629 DOZEN FROM 1955. POULTRY MARKETINGS WERE 3,613,978 LBS., AN INCREASE OF 563,240 LBS. OVER 1955. HATCHERY PRODUCTION FOR 1956 WAS 1,411,215 CHICKS AND 57,523 TURKEY POULTS, A TOTAL INCREASE OF 342,390 BIRDS OVER 1955. FINAL PAYMENTS WERE AUTHORIZED AS FOLLOWS -

EGGS	\$24,385.21
POULTRY	\$40,055.78
HATCHERY	<u>\$14,746.12</u>
	\$81,187.11

OF THIS AMOUNT, \$25,901.25 OF THE POULTRY FINAL PAYMENT WAS PAID IN CASH, WITH THE BALANCE OF \$55,285.86 PAID IN THE FORM OF RESERVE SHARE CERTIFICATE.

SEVERAL SMALL POULTRY CO-OPERATIVES CHANNEL THEIR HANDLINGS THROUGH ALBERTA POULTRY PRODUCERS - A. P. P. HANDLED APPROXIMATELY 40% OF EGGS MARKETED IN ALBERTA.

ONE-HALF OF THE GRADING STATIONS IN THE PROVINCE ARE OWNED BY CO-OPERATIVES.

## OTHER CO-OPERATIVES

ALBERTA HONEY PRODUCERS LIMITED - DURING 1956, HONEY INTAKE WAS UP OVER TWICE WHAT IT HAD BEEN IN 1955, TO AN ALL TIME HIGH OF 1,998,881 LBS. PRICES TO BEEKEEPERS WERE UP TO 15 1)2 CENTS FROM 14 1)2 CENTS THE PREVIOUS YEAR. DURING THE YEAR, THE HONEY PRODUCERS WERE ABLE TO MOVE INTO LARGER QUARTERS, WHICH GAVE THEM SOME 9,000 SQUARE FEET OF FLOOR SPACE. IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT THE INCREASED EFFICIENCY OF OPERATION WILL MORE THAN LOOK AFTER THE INCREASED COSTS OF THE LARGER BUILDING. STOCKS WERE ADEQUATE TO SUPPLY ALL DEMANDS FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE 1949. THERE WILL BE A CARRYOVER INTO THE 1957 SEASON EVEN THOUGH DEMAND IS BRISK. NET SURPLUS WAS UP FROM \$1,132.93, TO \$9,994.41 FOR THE YEAR.

VEGETABLE CO-OPERATIVES - NO VEGETABLE CO-OPERATIVES OPERATED IN 1956.

C. C. I. L. - SALES OF CO-OP IMPLEMENTS DECREASED SLIGHTLY IN 1956 TO \$2,866,000.00. LOSS FOR THE YEAR WAS \$26,721.00. THIS IS A VAST IMPROVEMENT OVER 1955. THE DECREASE IN SALES VALUE IS ATTRIBUTED TO THE NECESSITY FOR MEETING PRICE CUTTING TACTICS OF COMPETITORS.

FEED CO-OPERATIVES - CALGARY CO-OP FUR FARMERS IS THE MOST AGGRESSIVE ASSOCIATION IN THIS LINE. SMALL GROUPS AT LAC LA BICHE AND JOUSSARD ALSO PROVIDE COLD STORAGE FACILITIES FOR MINK RANCHERS IN THEIR AREA.



COMMUNITY CENTRES - NO NEW INCORPORATIONS IN 1956.

ARTIFICIAL BREEDING ASSOCIATIONS - THERE WERE THREE INCORPORATIONS - MOUNTAIN VIEW, AT OLDS, ACME, AND E. I. D., AT BROOKS. WITH THE ADVENT OF FROZEN SEMEN, THE STORAGE PROBLEM IS MINIMIZED, AND IT HAS BEEN POSSIBLE TO EXTEND BREEDING DISTANCES AND ALSO TO EXTEND SERVICE TO BEEF BREEDS IN ADDITION TO DAIRY HERDS.

WOOL GROWERS CO-OPERATIVES - THE TWO ASSOCIATIONS WHICH ARE OPERATING ARE PERFORMING A NEEDED SERVICE FOR THEIR MEMBERS, BUT ARE NOT TOO MUCH OF A SUCCESS IN A FINANCIAL WAY.

DRUG CO-OPERATIVE - NORTHWEST DRUG CO-OPERATIVE INCREASED SALES TO \$1,187,341.88. NET SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR WAS \$10,359, OR 0.88%. THE LOSS OF \$11,993 IN 1955 IS REDUCED TO \$1,634, AND 1957 SHOULD SEE THEM IN A VERY SOUND POSITION.

NATURAL GAS - TO DATE, THERE IS STILL THE ONE NATURAL GAS ASSOCIATION SERVING ITS MEMBERS ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF WAINWRIGHT. ANOTHER ASSOCIATION IS INCORPORATED AT CRANFORD, BUT NO LINES HAVE BEEN BUILT. THERE IS A CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN SOME AREAS AS GATHERING LINES HAVE BEEN BUILT TO PROVIDE FOR GAS EXPORT, AND FARMERS IN THE AREAS CONCERNED ARE SHOWING A DESIRE TO TAP THESE LINES AND SO SUPPLY THEIR HOMES WITH FUEL.

HAIL SUPPRESSION CO-OPERATIVES - THE MOUNTAIN VIEW HAIL SUPPRESSION CO-OPERATIVE INCORPORATED IN 1956, AND TOGETHER WITH THE KNEEHILL GROUP, INVESTIGATED THE POSSIBILITY OF WEATHER MODIFICATION TO REDUCE DAMAGE. EXPERIMENTS APPEARED TO BE SUCCESSFUL, AND FURTHER STUDY WILL BE CARRIED OUT IN 1957.

BUILDING ASSOCIATIONS - ONE NEW GROUP WAS INCORPORATED, THE BANFF BUILDING ASSOCIATION. THIS PROJECT WAS SPARKED BY THE BANFF CREDIT UNION, BUT THE BUILDING IN QUESTION WAS SOLD SO THE ASSOCIATION IS INACTIVE. THE EDMONTON AND CALGARY BUILDING ASSOCIATIONS CONTINUE TO SERVE THEIR MEMBERS, BY PROVIDING HOUSING FUNDS. UNFORTUNATELY THEY HAVE BEEN RESTRICTED IN THE AMOUNT OF THE MORTGAGE MONEY AVAILABLE, AND SO HAVE NOT FINANCED AS MANY HOMES AS DESIRED.

REAL ESTATE BUREAUS - ONE NEW BUREAU, IN LETHBRIDGE, WAS INCORPORATED IN 1956. THERE HAS ALWAYS BEEN SOME DOUBT IN MY MIND AS TO WHETHER THE VENDOR OF A HOUSE BENEFITS BY THE SERVICES OFFERED. HOWEVER THE FACT THAT EACH LISTING IS IN MANY AGENTS' HANDS TENDS TO GIVE QUICKER ACTION ON A SALE.





## ALBERTA CO-OPERATIVE UNION LIMITED

DURING THE YEAR, W. J. HARPER BECAME SECRETARY ON A FULL TIME BASIS. HE WAS GIVEN OFFICE SPACE AND SECRETARIAL ASSISTANCE BY THE F. U. A. AND IT IS BELIEVED THAT THE WORK OF THE A. C. U. WILL BE GREATLY HELPED BY THESE CHANGES.

## THE CO-OPERATIVE UNION OF CANADA - 47TH CONGRESS

THE 47TH CONGRESS WAS HELD IN THE CHATEAU LAURIER IN OTTAWA. PRIOR TO CONGRESS, A TWO-DAY MEETING OF PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES WAS HELD TO DISCUSS COMMON PROBLEMS. THESE MEETINGS, WHILE SOMEWHAT INFORMAL, AND WITH NO OFFICIAL STATUS, GIVE REPRESENTATIVES A CHANCE TO MEET EACH OTHER AND TO DISCUSS MATTERS WHICH AFFECT ALL PROVINCES. THE DOMINION GOVERNMENT PROVIDES A SECRETARY, IN THE PERSON OF THEIR SENIOR ECONOMIST, AND THE MINUTES ARE FORWARDED TO EACH PROVINCE. IN OCTOBER, A MEETING WAS HELD IN SASKATOON, WHERE MR. R. D. CHASE OF MANITOBA, DR. B. N. ARNASON OF SASKATCHEWAN, AND H. W. WEBBER OF ALBERTA, MET AS A COMMITTEE, TO PREPARE THE AGENDA FOR 1957.

## NEW CO-OPERATIVES

SPRUCE RANCHING CO-OPERATIVE WAS FORMED WITH THE BLESSING OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND FORESTS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, TO TAKE OVER A LARGE GRAZING LEASE WEST OF HIGH RIVER AND TURN THIS LEASE INTO A CO-OPERATIVE RANCH, WHICH WOULD BECOME A CO-OPERATIVE PASTURE FOR MANY SMALL RANCHERS AND FARMERS. TO DATE, FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS ARE NOT COMPLETE BUT IT IS HOPED TO TAKE OVER THE PROPERTY IN 1957.

ANOTHER NEW VENTURE WAS THAT OF A GROUP OF DAIRY GOAT OWNERS WHO INCORPORATED A DAIRY GOAT ASSOCIATION, TO GO INTO THE PROCESSING OF GOATS' MILK. NO FURTHER ACTION HAS TAKEN PLACE AND WE ARE ASSUMING THAT THE VENTURE WAS STILLBORN.

## THE BULLETIN - "CO-OPERATION"

IN 1956, THE MAILING LIST CONTINUED TO INCREASE. WE TRY TO IMPART INFORMATION TO CO-OPS THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF THE BULLETIN, AND HAVE RECEIVED MANY FAVORABLE COMMENTS AS TO ITS VALUE.

## STATISTICS

IN COMPILING STATISTICS, WE ATTEMPT TO SHOW ONLY THOSE ASSOCIATIONS WHICH ARE ACTIVE AND OPERATING.





INACTIVE CO-OPS ARE REMOVED FROM OUR FILES AS SOON AS WE ARE ADVISED OF THEIR STATUS. IN 1956, WE REMOVED TWELVE ASSOCIATIONS FROM OUR ACTIVE FILES.

A YEAR AGO, THERE WERE 638 CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATIONS OPERATING IN ALBERTA. DURING 1956, 36 NEW ASSOCIATIONS WERE SET UP. THE FOLLOWING CONSOLIDATION SHOWS THE POSITION OF THE VARIOUS CATEGORIES AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1956.

TYPE	NO. ACTIVE DEC. 31)55	1956 INACTIVE, SOLD, AMALGAMATED, AND/OR DISSOLVED	NO. OF NEW ASSOCIATIONS REGISTERED	TOTAL DECEMBER 31, 1956
ELECTRICAL	347		15	362
CONSUMER	105	5	3	103
LIVE STOCK MARKETING	47	2	3	47
LIVE STOCK FEEDERS	33	2	2	33
GRAIN AND SEED	29	1	5	33
DAIRY AND POULTRY	17			17
COMMUNITY HALLS	14			14
FROZEN FOOD LOCKERS	5			5
SUNDRY	41	2	9	48
TOTALS	638	12	36	662

## CONCLUSIONS

TO SUMMARIZE THE ACTIVITIES OF THIS BRANCH FOR 1956, I HAVE THE HONOR TO REPORT, THAT WE HAVE DONE OUR BEST TO HELP THE VARIOUS CO-OPERATIVES WITH WHICH WE DEAL. THE GROWTH OF THE PROVINCE GENERALLY HAS BEEN REFLECTED IN ITS CO-OPERATIVES, AND WE HAVE SEEN A GREAT INCREASE IN THE WORK LOAD OF THE BRANCH.

1956 SAW REPAYMENTS TO THE REVOLVING FUND GROW TO ALMOST 1.8 MILLION DOLLARS. THIS, PLUS NEW ADDITIONS TO THE MEMBERS' LEDGER, AND THE WORK OF KEEPING PAID UP ACCOUNTS PROCESSED FOR DISCHARGES, ETC., HAS KEPT OUR ACCOUNTING STAFF BUSY. SOME DIFFICULTY WAS EXPERIENCED IN THE LATTER PART OF THE YEAR, DUE TO INEXPERIENCED CLERICAL STAFF, BUT THESE PROBLEMS WERE FACED AND OVERCOME.

CO-OPERATION OF STAFF MEMBERS IS EXCELLENT, AS IS THAT GIVEN TO US BY OTHER BRANCHES AND DEPARTMENTS. DURING 1956 WE ADDED MR. G. H. HEATH AS A CO-OPERATIVE ASSISTANT IN EDMONTON, ALSO MR. C. W. MILNER AS A CREDIT UNION EXAMINER. IN CALGARY, MR. J. KOOP RESIGNED AND WAS REPLACED BY MR. C. GRANT.

DURING THE YEAR, AS IN THE PAST, WE HAVE ATTEMPTED TO PROMOTE GOOD PUBLIC RELATIONS



WITH THE GROUPS AND OFFICIALS WITH WHOM WE DEAL. THIS HAS BEEN SOMEWHAT MORE DIFFICULT AT TIMES THAN HAS BEEN THE CASE IN THE PAST, AS WE HAVE HAD TO TAKE THE INITIATIVE WITH RURAL ELECTRIFICATION GROUPS, TO ENCOURAGE THEM TO TAKE POSITIVE STEPS TOWARD COLLECTION OF ARREARS IN REVOLVING FUND PAYMENTS. HOWEVER IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN POSSIBLE TO PRESENT THE CASE FAIRLY AND THE REACTION IS GENERALLY GOOD.

WE ATTEND MEETINGS WHEREVER POSSIBLE AND MAKE THE FACILITIES AND PERSONNEL OF THE OFFICE AVAILABLE FOR ANY LEGITIMATE SERVICE TO THE CO-OPERATIVES OF THE PROVINCE.

ALL OF THE ABOVE IS RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED AS THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CO-OPERATIVE SECTION OF THE CO-OPERATIVE ACTIVITIES AND CREDIT UNION BRANCH, OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIES AND LABOUR.



H. W. WEBBER, SUPERVISOR





## CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATIONS

REGISTERED DURING THE YEAR 1956

CHARTER NUMBER	NAME AND ADDRESS
973 JANUARY 17	PROVINCIAL SEED CLEANING CO-OPERATIVES ASSOCIATION LIMITED, EDMONTON (THE HEAD OFFICE IS SHOWN AS EDMONTON FOR ADMINISTRATION PURPOSES)
974 JANUARY 19	IDDESLEIGH-JENNER RURAL ELECTRIFICATION ASSOCIATION LIMITED, IDDESLEIGH
975 FEBRUARY 8	BEAVERDAM RURAL ELECTRIFICATION ASSOCIATION LIMITED, BEAVERDAM
976 FEBRUARY 17	MOUNTAIN VIEW HAIL SUPPRESSION ASSOCIATION LIMITED, DIDSBURY
977 FEBRUARY 22	ALBERTA DAIRY GOAT PRODUCERS CO-OPERATIVE LIMITED, EDMONTON
978 FEBRUARY 24	RED DEER CO-OP LIMITED, RED DEER
979 MARCH 26	K. I. B. SEED CLEANING PLANT LIMITED, BEISEKER
980 APRIL 6	PONOKA CO-OPERATIVE OILS LIMITED PONOKA
981 APRIL 13	MEDICINE HAT CO-OP LIMITED, MEDICINE HAT,
982 APRIL 24	SUNDRE NORTH RURAL ELECTRIFICATION ASSOCIATION LIMITED, SUNDRE
983 APRIL 30	ALDER FLATS RURAL ELECTRIFICATION ASSOCIATION LIMITED, ALDER FLATS
984 MAY 8	BURNS RURAL ELECTRIFICATION ASSOCIATION LIMITED, STANMORE
985 MAY 15	PLAIN LAKE RURAL ELECTRIFICATION ASSOCIATION LIMITED, TWO HILLS
986 MAY 26	SION RURAL ELECTRIFICATION ASSOCIATION LIMITED, BUSBY
987 JUNE 1	WOKING RURAL ELECTRIFICATION ASSOCIATION LIMITED, BURNT RIVER
988 JUNE 7	LETHBRIDGE REAL ESTATE BOARD CO-OP LIMITED, LETHBRIDGE
989 JUNE 15	EDSON-FULHAM RURAL ELECTRIFICATION ASSOCIATION LIMITED, PIONEER





990 JUNE 19	BERRY CREEK RURAL ELECTRIFICATION ASSOCIATION LIMITED, CAROLSIDE
991 JULY 9	SPRUCE RANCHING CO-OPERATIVE LIMITED PARKLAND
992 JULY 3	HIRAM RURAL ELECTRIFICATION ASSOCIATION LIMITED, CORONATION
993 JULY 3	BIG STONE RURAL ELECTRIFICATION ASSOCIATION LIMITED, YOUNGSTOWN
994 AUGUST 1	CRANFORD NATURAL GAS ASSOCIATION LIMITED CRANFORD
995 AUGUST 2	NITON RURAL ELECTRIFICATION ASSOCIATION LIMITED, NITON
996 AUGUST 9	WESTERN FEEDER ASSOCIATION LIMITED, STRATHMORE
997 AUGUST 21	BANFF CO-OPERATIVE BUILDING ASSOCIATION LIMITED, BANFF
998 AUGUST 24	HIGHWOOD FEEDERS' ASSOCIATION LIMITED, HIGH RIVER
999 AUGUST 30	FROG LAKE RURAL ELECTRIFICATION ASSOCIATION LIMITED, HEINSBURG
1000 SEPTEMBER 7	PEACE MUNICIPAL SEED CLEANING ASSOCIATION LIMITED, BERWYN
1001 SEPTEMBER 17	BRAGG CREEK RURAL ELECTRIFICATION ASSOCIATION LIMITED, CALGARY
1002 SEPTEMBER 26	PONOKA COMMUNITY LIVESTOCK SALES LIMITED PONOKA
1003 OCTOBER 9	MOUNTAIN VIEW BREEDING ASSOCIATION LIMITED OLDS
1004 NOVEMBER 19	STRATHMORE SEED CLEANING PLANT LIMITED STRATHMORE
1005 NOVEMBER 7	ACME BREEDING CO-OP ASS'N LIMITED ACME
1006 NOVEMBER 21	CORONATION LIVESTOCK AUCTION SALES ASSOCIATION LIMITED, CORONATION
1007 DECEMBER 13	E. I. D. ARTIFICIAL BREEDING ASSOCIATION LIMITED, BROOKS
1008 DECEMBER 14	GOODRIDGE GRAIN CLEANING CO-OPERATIVE LIMITED, GOODRIDGE

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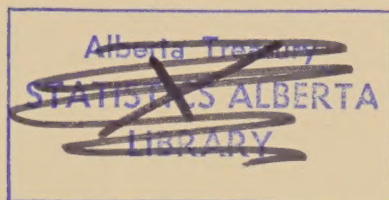
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